

~~SECRET~~

10/P

25X1



18 JAN 1960

Mrs. Elisabeth Van Doehren

25X1



Dear Mrs. Van Doehren:

I have your letter of 5 January concerning the Geneva meetings in which Ambassador Beam will participate on 19 January.

I regret that we do not have any more recent information relative to the fate of your son John and his companions. Please let me reassure you, however, that we are constantly mindful of them and that we are taking all steps possible to supply you with information.

With my kindest regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles

Director

Signature Recommended:

25X1



1960

Deputy Director  
(Plans)

Distribution:

Orig. ~~2~~ - Addressee

- 2 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - DDP
- 1 - COP
- 1 - CFE

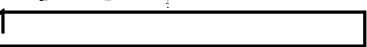
EXECUTIVE

DECISION

25X1



25X1



15 January 60  
25X1

~~SECRET~~

**SECRET**

25X1

*✓ must be  
c/w Word!*

18 JAN

Mrs. Elizabeth Van Dohren

25X1

Dear Mrs. Van Dohren:

I have your letter of 5 January concerning the Geneva meetings in which Ambassador Beam will participate on 19 January.

I regret that we do not have any more recent information relative to the fate of your son John and his companions. Please let me reassure you, however, that we are constantly mindful of them and that we are taking all steps possible to supply you with information.

With my kindest regards.

Sincerely,

*WED*

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Signature Recommended:

ILLEGIB (sgd)

[Redacted Signature]

18 JAN 1960

Deputy Director  
(Plans)

Distribution:

Orig. ~~1~~ - Addressee:

✓ 2 - DCI

1 - DD CI

1 - DD P

1 - CDP

1 - CFE

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

25X

**SECRET**

STAT

Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:-

Kindly refer to my letter of October 14th.

I am writing you again, inasmuch as I understand that Ambassador Beam is to confer with representatives of Red China at Geneva on January 19th, and am wondering if you could please do something to make sure that our boys' plight is not forgotten?

These boys are innocent of any wrong-doing, and as American citizens, not to mention being Marine and Naval Reserve Officers, it seems that something could be done to effect their release, or secure information as to their whereabouts.

Thanking you for your efforts in our sons' behalf,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth VanDoehe*  
Elizabeth VanDoehren

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Bohning  
Mr. and Mrs. Farmer  
Mrs. Martin

18 LN .00

**SECRET**

25X1

*ER 60-1-181*

15 JAN 60

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence


VIA: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Reply to Mrs. Elizabeth Van Doehren's  
Letter of 5 January 1960

1. Forwarded herewith for the Director's signature is a suggested reply to Mrs. Elizabeth Van Doehren's letter of 5 January, requesting information concerning the fate of her son and his companions.

2. In view of the fact that this is a subject which would normally be handled by the Department of State, it is suggested that the Director may wish to refer Mrs. Van Doehren's letter to the Department for whatever action they may be able to take on behalf of the young men concerned.

25X1

 Desmond FitzGerald  
Chief, Far East Division

1 Attachment

cc: DDCI

**SECRET**

PLEASE NOTE IF THERE IS FURTHER  
CORRESPONDENCE:

Subject writes her last name as  
one word.

25X1  1/19/60